

she plans the dinner his tastes are regarded first. What would he like best is her constant thought. She dresses her children, having in mind a little suggestion or thought which he may have dropped days, yes, even months ago. His color becomes her color; his his taste her taste. And even if she does not always personally approve of a certain thing she buys it or she does it because she feels or thinks it will please him. Scores and scores of times have I seen wives lay aside their preferences willingly and cheerfully because their husbands liked something else better. His coming home is to her the event of the day, and it is her pleasure to prepare for it in some way. No matter how tired the head, how ill the body during the day, she tries to look cheerful when her husband comes home. She feels that she has something to dress for as his home-coming hour approaches. She likes to lay aside the house-gown she has worn all day, and don a fresh dress for his coming. It is a pleasure to her to wear the gown for which, at some time or other, he may have expressed a preference; or it may be in the dressing of the hair in the way which she knows he likes best; in the simple ribbon of his favorite color, in the wearing of a flower he likes to see on her, or with which there may be some tender association; in a little touch which she deftly gives the table; in some favorite dish of his prepared by her own hands; in the inviting manner in which his house-coat and slippers are placed ready for his donning; in the convenient spot in which he finds his evening paper, his cigar ready for his enjoyment; in short, in the thousand touches which only occur to a woman who finds her delight in the pleasure which she can give the man she loves.

—*Ladies' Home Journal*.

THE BERRIES OF THE SUMMER.

Currants make a delicious ice cream, writes Eliza R. Parker in an article that will be found of special value by all housekeepers, in the June *Ladies' Home Journal*. Mash two pounds of ripe red currants: add a pound of sugar to them, and let stand for two hours. Strain and add the juice to a quart of thick sweet cream; if not sufficiently

sweet add more sugar; pour in a freezer let stand ten minutes and freeze.

Currant water ice, which is also good is made by boiling one pound of sugar and a pint of water together until it forms a thick syrup; take from the fire; add a pint of red current juice: let cool; pour in a freezer; when half frozen stir in the beaten whites of six eggs; mould and freeze hard.

Currents and gooseberries are very dainty and ornamental when crystallized. Select ripe, firm fruit; leave on the stems; dip first in beaten white of an egg, then powdered sugar; arrange on paper and set in a cool oven for ten minutes; when the icing becomes firm pile in a glass dish, and set in a cool place.

A pretty way to serve blackberries with cream is to pick fresh, ripe berries over carefully; heap them in a glass bowl and set on ice; serve on saucers, with little bowls of sugar and pitchers of cream, allowing each person at the table to sugar the fruit to suit taste. Blackberries may be served with meringue as follows: Place a quart of ripe blackberries in a bowl; sprinkle with powdered sugar: beat the whites of three eggs with half cup of sugar, and spread over the berries; set on ice until very cold. Blackberry flummery is made by placing a pint of ripe blackberries in a saucepan with a pint of water; let boil slowly without stirring for ten minutes; moisten two tablespoonfuls of corn starch with cold water stir into the berries; let thicken: take from the fire and add half a teacup of sugar; when cool serve with sugar and cream.

To make raspberry, blackberry, whortleberry or gooseberry preserves pick the berries over carefully, rejecting all soft and imperfect ones. Weigh the fruit and sugar; put the latter in a porcelain-lined preserve kettle with water to dissolve; boil until thick; add the fruit; let cook very slowly until clear. Take up carefully, put in small glass jars and cover. If the seeds of berries are not liked, the juice may be strained, measured and boiled with the sugar until firm, when a seedless jam will be the result. All summer berries make excellent jams.

BROKEN IDOLS.

The ruined cities of the old world are strewn with broken idols and images, which once towered aloft and flashed in the sunshine, but are now battered and buried in the debris of their own temples, or cast to bats and the moles in utter disuse and desolation.

But these are not the only idols which have been broken. The warning to "flee from idolatry," and the exhortation "Little children, keep yourselves from idols," are wide reaching. Covetousness is idolatry; and undue longing or reverence for any person or thing, assumes the aspect of idolatry. There are men who make idols of gold, of fame, of power, of position.

Men may worship the images their hands have made, or the institutions which their hands have founded; and time often shows them their mistake and breaks the spell and dissipates the illusions which have enthralled them. Men that they have trusted proved false, schemes which they have framed or accepted are abortive. Organizations which they have founded are perverted and hinder rather than help the object which they were designed to promote; and disappointed and dejected, men sit down in dust and ashes, bemoaning their waste of time and strength and influence, in building that which eventually must be thrown down and trampled in the dust.

Most of us have lost some idol. Friends for whom we have suffered and labored fail us in the trying hour. Those whom we have trusted prove untrustworthy; and at last we are led back to set our hope in God, and to find in man's unfaithfulness an additional reason for committing our all to the hands of a faithful Creator.

Disappointment is the lot of erring men. Sometimes it is slight; sometimes it is bitter. The more heavily we lean upon earth's broken reeds the more sure they are to pierce the side that trusted in them. If we blindly follow leaders we shall find ourselves in the ditch. If we suffer ourselves to be swept on with the thoughtless multitude, we may find our course is full of peril, and the end disappointing in the extreme; but if we keep ourselves from idols, cleave to the Lord, walk cautiously and softly before him, and seek the guidance of his word and his spirit, though we may have fewer high hopes and grand schemes, we may have fewer disasters and disappointments; less enthusiasm for the present hour, and fewer broken idols in the days to come.—*The Christian*.